

ANNUAL LIVESTOCK INVENTORY - JANUARY 1, 1946

The annual inventory of livestock on Illinois farms indicates decreases during 1945 in the numbers of cattle, sheep, horses and mules, and an increase in the number of hogs, according to the ILLINOIS and U. S. DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE. Chicken and turkey numbers also increased.

Higher values per head of all species except work stock offset declines in numbers and resulted in an inventory value of all livestock on farms January 1, 1946 of \$461,956,000. This compares with \$423,475,000 a year earlier and the record high valuation of \$485,867,000 registered in 1943. With chicken and turkey valuation included, the totals are \$493,333,000 this year and \$453,206,000 January 1, 1945.

All cattle numbers at 3,247,000 head represent a decline of 3 percent during 1945, the first decline registered since 1937. That year was the beginning of the upward movement of the cattle number cycle which reached the all-time record of 3,244,000 head January 1, 1945. The reduction in numbers was mostly in dairy stock since the number of other cattle showed little change during 1945. The average value per head of \$87.00 was up \$8.20 from a year earlier and was the highest on record. Total value of all cattle January 1, 1946 reached \$273,820,000 to exceed all records. It was 7 percent higher than a year earlier.

Milk cow numbers declined 4 percent during 1945. The total of 1,144,000 head on farms January 1, 1946 was the smallest inventory number since 1941. Both yearling heifers and calves saved for milk cows declined 6 percent in number. An average value of \$121.00 per head and total valuation of \$138,424,000 set new high records. Values a year earlier were \$110.00 per head for a total of \$131,120,000.

Hogs on farms totaled 6,337,000 head, an 11 percent increase during 1945 and the third largest January 1 total of record. The sharp increase reflected the large 1945 fall pig crop, which was up 16 percent from a year earlier. Value per head was \$25.40 — a new high — and the total valuation of \$161,072,000 has been exceeded only once, in 1943, when there were more hogs.

Stock sheep numbers at 472,000 head are the lowest in 20 years and 10 percent less than a year ago. However, with an increase of 11 percent in the number of sheep and lambs on feed for market, the January 1, 1946 all sheep total was 743,000 head, or only 4 percent under a year earlier. At \$11.10 per head, valuation grossed \$8,278,000 compared with \$10.10 and \$7,785,000 January 1, 1945.

Work stock numbers are the lowest in 80 years of records. The number of horses declined 12 percent and mules 15 percent during 1945 to total 334,000 and 41,000 head respectively January 1, 1946. In the peak years, there were 1,522,000 horses in 1913 and 171,000 mules in 1915 on Illinois farms. Horses averaged \$47.00 per head — down \$11.00 from a year earlier — for a total valuation of \$15,714,000, while mule values declined only \$4.00 to rate \$75.00 per head and a \$3,072,000 total value.

Chickens on farms increased 2 percent during 1945 to total 25,761,000 January 1, 1946. Valued at \$1.17 per bird their inventory valuation was \$30,140,000 compared with \$1.14 and \$28,878,000 a year earlier. Turkeys were inventoried at 217,000 birds — 35 percent more than a year ago. Their value averaged \$5.70 per bird for a total of \$1,237,000. A year earlier the comparable values were \$5.30 and \$853,000.

The number of livestock on farms in the United States continued to decline during 1945 but at a less rapid rate than during 1944. Numbers of horses, mules, cattle and sheep declined but hogs increased. Poultry numbers also increased. During 1944, numbers of all species of livestock and of poultry declined.

The total value of livestock on farms January 1, 1946 of 8,923 million dollars was 9 percent higher than a year earlier and only slightly below the all time record high value of January 1, 1943. The values per head of horses and mules continued to decline but those of all other species, as well as of chickens were higher than a year earlier, with turkeys unchanged.

Compared with a year earlier, the supply of feed grains on January 1 per animal unit of livestock including chickens, was about 5 percent smaller than a year earlier, but much larger than two years ago. The supply of hay per unit was much larger than a year earlier with hay stocks up 7 percent and hay consuming units down 4 percent.

The declines in livestock numbers in 1945 may be ascribed to varying causes. In the case of horses and mules it was a continuation of the downward trend in evidence for many years and at an accelerated rate. With cattle it was apparently a continuation of the downward movement of the cattle number cycle that started in 1944, with little evidence of liquidation. In the case of sheep, however, the sharp decline indicated a continuing liquidation of breeding flocks. The increases in hogs and poultry reflected the more favorable feed situation during most of 1945 and the favorable relationship between feed prices and livestock, poultry and egg prices.

The 8,259,000 horses, including colts, on farms January 1, 1946 represent a decrease of 7 percent from a year earlier. This is the smallest number since 1871 and is only 39 percent of the 1915 peak of 21,431,000 head. The value per head of horses was \$57.30 on January 1, nearly \$8.00 less than a year earlier. The total valuation declined about 100 million dollars, being \$473,388,000 on January 1, 1946 compared with \$574,229,000 a year earlier. This was the lowest inventory value in 75 years.

The number of mules declined about 6 percent during 1945, with an estimated 3,196,000 head on farms January 1, 1946. All mules were valued at \$420,556,000 on January 1, 1946, a reduction of \$33,465,000 from a year earlier. The reduced valuation is a result of the decline in number and of a \$1.00 decrease in average value per head from \$133 to \$132.

The number of cattle and calves on farms January 1, 1946 was about 2,100,000 head less than a year earlier. The estimated 79,791,000 head is the third largest on record, having been exceeded only by the January 1, 1944 and 1945 numbers. Milk cows and heifers and heifer calves saved for milk cows declined more sharply during 1945 than other cattle. Milk stock on January 1, 1946 were 1,570,000 head lower than a year earlier. Other cattle showed a net decline of 548,000 head. Beef cows and heifers 2 years old and over were the only age and sex group to register a gain during 1945. New high records were made this year for both the average value per head and total farm value of all cattle and calves. The average value per head on January 1, 1946 of \$76.50 was over \$9.00 higher than a year earlier and nearly \$7.00 higher than the previous record in 1943. The total value of 6,103 million dollars was about 600 million higher than a year earlier and about 450 million above the previous high of January 1, 1944.

The number of milk cows estimated at 26,785,000 head, declined 3 percent during 1945. This number is the smallest since 1942. Yearling heifers and heifer calves saved for milk cows declined sharply during 1945 to the lowest number for each class since 1941. Average value of milk cows reached the record high of \$112.00 per head on January 1, 1946, ten dollars above the previous high of \$102.00 January 1, 1944. Despite the decline in numbers, the January 1, 1946 total value of milk cows at \$2,998,545,000 was the highest on record.

The number of hogs on farms at the beginning of 1946 showed an upward trend following the sharp decline of a year ago. The 62,344,000 head on farms January 1, 1946 is 4 percent larger than a year earlier and substantially higher than the pre-war 1935-39 average of 43,932,000. The average value per head at the beginning of 1946 was \$24.00, \$3.30 higher than a year earlier and the highest January 1 value on record. The farm inventory valuation this year of all hogs was nearly 1½ billion dollars — a figure that has been exceeded in only one other year — 1943.

The decline in sheep numbers continued through 1945, making 4 years of continuous reduction in sheep inventories. The total number of all sheep and lambs declined from 47,780,000 to 44,241,000 head, over 7 percent. Sheep and lambs on feed for market decreased from 6,858,000 to 6,724,000 head. Stock sheep numbers declined 8 percent or from 40,922,000 to 37,517,000 head and are the smallest since 1926. The total value of all sheep and lambs is \$428,488,000 compared with \$409,844,000 a year ago. The average value per head is \$9.69 against \$8.58.

Chickens on farms January 1, 1946 totaled 525,536,000 birds, excluding commercial broilers. This number was 3 percent larger than a year ago, and 17 percent above the 10-year (1935-44) average. Average January 1 value per bird increased from \$1.21 in 1945 to \$1.26 in 1946. The 10-year average value per bird is 77 cents. Total value of all chickens on farms January 1, 1946 was \$662,137,000 — 7 percent more than the value on January 1, 1945 and 86 percent greater than the 10-year average.

Farm holdings of turkeys on January 1, 1946 reached a record number of 8,734,000 birds — 19 percent more than a year ago, and 29 percent above the 10-year (1935-44) average. Reports since January 1 indicate relatively large marketing of breeder hens in January and February because of a weaker demand for hatching eggs. The value per turkey January 1 of this year was \$5.72 compared with \$5.73 a year ago and \$2.93 for the 10-year average. The total value of turkeys was about 50 million — the highest value of record, 19 percent over a year ago and about 2½ times the 10-year average.

ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
Office of Agricultural Statistician, P.O. Box 429, Springfield, Ill., Feb. 18, 1946

LIVESTOCK OF ALL AGES ON FARMS - JANUARY 1, 1944, 1945, 1946
and 10-YEAR (1935-44) AVERAGE

ILLINOIS				UNITED STATES			
	Value				Value		
	Numbers	Per Head	Total	Numbers	Per Head	Total	
<u>HORSES</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	589,000	\$84.30	\$50,942,000	10,596,000	\$81.70	\$870,858,000	
1944	417,000	81.00	33,836,000	9,302,000	78.80	732,865,000	
1945	380,000	58.00	21,923,000	8,841,000	65.00	574,229,000	
1946	334,000	47.00	15,714,000	8,259,000	57.30	473,388,000	
<u>MULES</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	83,000	100.00	8,504,000	4,133,000	119.00	491,264,000	
1944	54,000	103.00	5,576,000	3,531,000	143.00	505,710,000	
1945	48,000	79.00	3,785,000	3,405,000	133.00	454,021,000	
1946	41,000	75.00	3,072,000	3,196,000	132.00	420,556,000	
<u>ALL CATTLE</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	2,884,000	51.60	152,654,000	71,037,000	44.10	3,204,102,000	
1944	3,244,000	80.50	261,141,000	82,364,000	68.70	5,661,097,000	
1945	3,244,000	78.80	255,471,000	81,909,000	67.20	5,503,311,000	
1946	3,147,000	87.00	273,820,000	79,791,000	76.50	6,103,365,000	
<u>MILK COWS AND HEIFERS (2 Yrs. Old & Over)</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	1,147,000	70.30	80,671,000	25,656,000	63.80	1,653,330,000	
1944	1,180,000	113.00	133,340,000	27,656,000	102.00	2,822,040,000	
1945	1,192,000	110.00	131,120,000	27,674,000	99.20	2,745,236,000	
1946	1,144,000	121.00	138,424,000	26,785,000	112.00	2,998,545,000	
<u>MILK HEIFERS (1 to 2 Yrs. Old)</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	250,000			5,385,000			
1944	312,000			6,230,000			
1945	295,000			6,169,000			
1946	277,000			5,726,000			
<u>SHEEP 1/</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	902,000	7.84	7,016,000	52,768,000	6.86	364,126,000	
1944	807,000	10.70	8,598,000	51,769,000	8.72	451,383,000	
1945	769,000	10.10	7,785,000	47,780,000	8.58	409,844,000	
1946	743,000	11.10	8,278,000	44,241,000	9.89	428,488,000	
<u>HOGS</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	5,149,000	14.60	79,753,000	55,300,000	12.50	736,853,000	
1944	7,612,000	20.80	158,134,000	83,852,000	17.50	1,470,533,000	
1945	5,709,000	23.60	134,511,000	59,759,000	20.70	1,239,108,000	
1946	6,337,000	25.40	161,072,000	62,344,000	24.00	1,496,966,000	
<u>CHICKENS</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	23,610,000	.78	18,798,000	447,889,000	.771	355,634,000	
1944	28,128,000	1.13	31,785,000	576,441,000	1.17	676,353,000	
1945	25,332,000	1.14	28,878,000	510,939,000	1.21	616,853,000	
1946	25,761,000	1.17	30,140,000	525,536,000	1.26	662,137,000	
<u>TURKEYS</u>							
10-Yr.Av.	104,000	3.02	328,000	6,789,000	2.93	20,122,000	
1944	146,000	5.30	774,000	7,572,000	5.39	40,091,000	
1945	161,000	5.30	853,000	7,323,000	5.73	41,926,000	
1946	217,000	5.70	1,237,000	8,734,000	5.72	49,924,000	
<u>TOTAL, 5 SPECIES 2/</u>							
10-Yr.Av.			298,869,000			5,667,203,000	
1944			467,285,000			8,821,588,000	
1945			423,475,000			8,180,513,000	
1946			461,956,000			8,922,763,000	
<u>TOTAL, 7 SPECIES 3/</u>							
10-Yr.Av.			317,995,000			6,042,959,000	
1944			499,844,000			9,538,032,000	
1945			453,206,000			8,839,292,000	
1946			493,333,000			9,634,824,000	

1/ Includes sheep and lambs in commercial feed lots on feed for market.

2/ Includes horses, mules, cattle, sheep, and hogs.

3/ Includes horses, mules, cattle, sheep, hogs, chickens, and turkeys.

AVERAGE PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS RECEIVED BY FARMERS

AND PRICE INDEXES

Commodity	ILLINOIS				UNITED STATES			
	Average				Average			
	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14	Jan. 15 '10 to Dec. 15 '14
	Dec. 1914	Dec. 1914	Dec. 1914	Dec. 1914	July 1914	July 1914	July 1914	July 1914
PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS -								
Corn, bu.	\$ 58.0	105	106	106	64.2	107	109	110
Wheat, bu.	\$ 91.6	158	164	164	88.4	146	154	154
Oats, bu.	\$ 37.5	73	73	74	39.9	72.1	70.3	71.7
Barley, bu.	\$ 63.3	108	113	113	61.9	102	108	109
Rye, bu.	\$ 72.6	107	140	142	72.0	109	143	150
Soybeans, bu.	\$ —	205	210	210	—	206	209	209
Clover Seed, bu.	\$ 9.02	18.60	18.40	18.40	—	18.60	18.50	18.80
Hay, ton	\$ 13.95	19.00	16.60	16.60	11.87	17.10	15.40	15.70
W. Potatoes, bu.	\$ 82.8	195	170	180	69.7	1/157	137	145
Apples, bu.	\$ 104.3	320	400	400	96.0	246	334	353
Cotton, lb.	\$ —	—	—	—	12.4	20.20	22.84	22.36
Hogs, cwt.	\$ 7.44	14.10	14.30	14.30	7.27	13.80	14.20	14.10
Beef Cattle, cwt.	\$ 5.93	11.90	12.00	12.30	5.42	1/11.00	11.50	11.80
Veal Calves, cwt.	\$ 7.19	13.50	14.50	14.40	6.75	1/12.90	13.50	13.60
Sheep, cwt.	\$ 4.26	5.40	6.30	6.60	4.53	6.18	6.19	6.36
Lambs, cwt.	\$ 5.93	13.40	13.30	13.40	5.88	1/12.90	12.90	13.00
Milk Cows, head	\$ 53.90	119.00	128.00	128.00	48.00	104.00	114.00	115.00
Horses, head	\$ 151.60	65.00	56.00	52.00	136.60	64.60	56.70	56.30
Butter, lb.	\$ 25.2	49	50	52	25.5	45.4	47.9	48.6
Butterfat, lb. 2/	\$ —	50	48	48	26.3	50.9	50.5	50.7
Milk (whsle), cwt. 2/	\$ 1.54	1/3.00	1/3.10	3.05	1.60	1/3.34	3.40	3.38
Chickens, lb.	\$ 11.1	24.1	22.6	23.0	11.4	24.2	23.8	23.5
Eggs, dozen	\$ 20.8	36.5	43.0	35.7	21.5	41.0	48.2	41.1
Wool, lb.	\$ 19.5	1/45	45	43	18.3	1/40.7	40.8	40.1
HOG-CORN RATIOS 3/ Bu.	13.2	13.4	13.5	13.5	11.3	12.9	13.0	12.8

INDEX NUMBERS

1910-1914 average equals 100

Prices Received by Farmers -								
All Farm Products	100	1/191	194	193	100	201	207	206
Crops	100	185	187	188	100	200	206	207
Food Grains	100	172	179	179	100	169	178	179
Feed Grain & Hay	100	181	181	182	100	163	162	164
Fruit	100	304	341	341	100	205	230	225
Oil-bearing Crops	100	178	182	182	100	214	213	213
Livestock & Products	100	1/194	198	196	100	202	207	204
Meat Animals	100	1/194	197	199	100	203	204	206
Dairy Products	100	1/195	1/198	196	100	202	204	203
Poultry & Eggs	100	190	206	184	100	199	222	197
Prices Paid by Farmers								
Ratio of Prices Rec'd. to Prices Paid 4/		107	106	105	100	112	113	112
Wholesale Prices, All Commodities 5/					100	153	1/156	—

1/ Revised. 2/ Does not include dairy production payments in January 1945, Dec. 1945 and Jan. 1946. 3/ Number of bushels of corn required to buy 100 pounds of live hogs at above price. 4/ Ratio for Illinois based on United States prices paid by farmers. 5/ Bureau of Labor Statistics index converted to 1910-1914 = 100. Index numbers computed from monthly averages of mid-weekly prices.

The general level of prices received by farmers in Illinois fell off one point from December 15 to January 15. Sharply lower egg prices were mainly responsible for the decline in the all commodity index. The mid-January index at 93 percent of the 1910-1914 average is two points above the revised index for January 1945 however. Prices of livestock and livestock products were 196 percent of the 1910-1914 base period average on January 15 compared with 198 in December and 194 a year earlier. Egg prices in mid-January were slightly lower than the January 1945 level and over seven cents below mid-December prices. The dairy products index was down slightly from the December 15 level, while the meat animal price index shows a 2 point upturn. The crop price index on January 15th, at 188, was 1 point higher than a month earlier and 3 points above that of a year ago. Slight increases in prices of oats, rye, and potatoes occurred during the month ended January 15th, but crop prices otherwise generally showed little or no change. The hog-corn ratio in mid-December was unchanged from a month earlier, when a hundred pounds of pork, live weight, was equivalent in price to 13.5 bushels of corn.

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